From: Richard A. Milewski
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 1:47pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Please place me on record as opposing the proposed settlement in the Microsoft antitrust case. The proposed settlement does not effectively require Microsoft to openly document the Application Programming Interface (API) of the Windows operating system in a meaningful way. If allowed to stand, this settlement will perpetuate the Microsoft practice of having a secret, documented API for use by Microsoft applications developers, and a less complete, partially documented API for use by independent software developers.

Additionally, allowing Microsoft to continue to engage in licensing agreements with large corporations that give Microsoft licensing revenue for each machine owned by a corporation that could run Windows, instead of each machine that is actually running windows, the settlement effectively imposes a tax on non-Windows computers and gives the proceeds of that to Microsoft. This artificially raises the cost of computers which do not run Windows, and those costs are passed on to the customers who use the products and services of the licensing corporations. As a consumer, I deeply resent having the cost of virtually every product I buy increased simply to subsidize the Microsoft monopoly.

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